

REMARKS

Applicants would like to express their appreciation to the Examiner for the indication that claims 1, 3-7 and 9-23 are allowable in the Notice of Allowance.

Applicants also appreciate the indication that claims 11-17 were rejoined.

Upon entry of the above amendments, claims 24-40 will have been newly presented. Claims 1, 3-7 and 9-40 are currently pending. Applicants respectfully request allowance of all the claims pending in the present application.

Applicants note that each of the newly added dependent claims 24-40 each respectively depend from one of the independent claims 1, 7 and 9 (which the Examiner has previously indicated as being allowable), and are thus clearly allowable. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request an early indication of the allowance of all of the pending claims.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Entry and consideration of the present amendment, and allowance of the present application and all of the claims therein are respectfully requested and now believed to be appropriate.

Applicants have made a sincere effort to place the present application in condition for allowance and believe that they have now done so.

Should there be any questions or comments, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
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